

Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



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May 11, 2001



the inside Scoop

Viewpoints:

The Air Education and Training Command commander discusses the importance of Military Spouse Appreciation Day...

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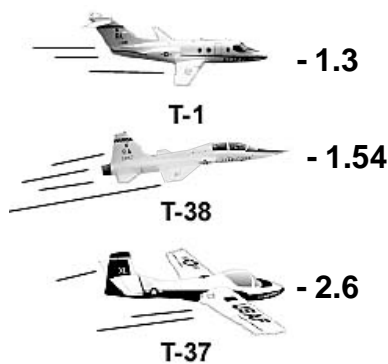
A B-24 pilot receives the Silver Star almost six decades after he earned it...

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Mission status

(As of Tuesday)

Days ahead(+) or behind(-)



Fiscal Year 2001 statistics

--Sorties flown: 39,163
--Hours flown: 57,983.3
--Pilot wings earned in FY 01: 161
--Wings earned since 1963: 11,869

Air Power
Quote of the Week



"To invent an airplane is nothing. To build one is something. To fly is everything."

—Otto Lilenthal

Laughlin greets new senior NCO

By Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit
Editor

A Laughlin technical sergeant became a master sergeant April 11 through the supplemental promotion program.

This promotes staff sergeants and above whom originally were passed up for promotion because of an error or lack of information in their Data Verification Records.

Master Sgt. William Fenimore, 47th Operations Support Squadron Airfield Management quality assurance evaluator, was promoted under the supplemental promotion program because one of his decorations failed to arrive at Laughlin from his previous assignment. When the decoration did arrive,

See 'Promotion,' page 4



Photo by Pat Watson

Grow Your Own

Roberto Perez, T-1 aircraft attendant, quizzes Joanna Mantiz, Del Rio High School student, on basic aircraft and engine maintenance knowledge. Mantiz is enrolled in the "Grow Your Own" vocational education program, which introduces 47th Flying Training Wing resources to Del Rio High School students. Students graduate the 36-week program with skills needed by local contract and civil service aircraft support programs for the Laughlin maintenance mission. The program has produced more than 200 alumni since its start in 1990.

Community College of Air Force, local universities graduate Laughlin people

Recent graduates from Community College of the Air Force, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Park University were recognized at a graduation ceremony at the Operations Training Complex auditorium Wednesday. Twenty-seven individuals from Laughlin satisfied degree requirements for the fall 2001 graduation.

Commanders, supervisors, family members, friends and co-workers attended the ceremony to celebrate the graduates' academic success.

Dr. Bruce A. Rothwell, regional faculty advisor for Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's South-Central Region, was the guest speaker for the event. Col. Jack Egginton, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, presented CCAF diplomas, Dr. Rothwell presented Embry-Riddle di-

plomas, and Dr. Wilford Box, Park University adjunct professor, presented the diplomas for Park University.

"The Air Force encourages education for military personnel," said Kathy Craven, Laughlin Education Office guidance counselor. "Air Force high-tech jobs require a professional, well-trained force. A higher degree helps the Air Force meet its mission requirements and servicemembers attain personal goals toward building a better future."

For more information on degree programs available at Laughlin, contact the Laughlin Education Office at 298-5545 or stop by building 316. Those who graduated in the

See 'Graduation,' page 5



By Capt. Joe Colunga
47th Flying Training Wing
Military Equal Opportunity chief

Ethnic observances important

Special events huge source of our knowledge

Have you ever considered why we have special observance committees and events?

When you see an e-mail announcing that the Asian-Pacific American Heritage Committee is looking for members or the Hispanic Heritage Committee is looking for volunteers, do you disregard or delete it?

Have you ever heard comments like, "Why don't we focus on what makes us the same, and not what makes us different?" or "Why don't

we just have an American Heritage Committee, where everyone is blended together?"

The reason we have these observances is simple; it is a source of strength.

Our great country was developed as a result of contributions of every culture, race, and ethnic group that make up our society. For example, most people know who invented the car, but how many know that Garrett Morgan, a black man, invented the traffic light?

Did you know Hispanic contributions include introducing the tech-

nique of using mercury to separate silver from worthless ores during the

California Gold Rush?

How about the U.S. Marine Navajo code talkers of WWII who sent code in their native language? It was the only code never deciphered by the enemy. Also in WWII, there was the 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team, which consisted of Japanese-American volunteers from mainland United States and Hawaii. This unit

has been recognized as the most decorated unit in the history of the United States. These American sol-

diers fought bravely while many of their parents and relatives were placed in American detention camps. Were you aware that in 1957 Elizabeth Lee Hazen and Rachel Fuller Brown developed and patented "Nystatin" (named for "N.Y. State Dept. of Health"), the world's first successful fungus-fighting antibiotic? Prior to Nystatin antibiotics killed body bacteria useful against fungus infections and left the infection.

"Groupthink" is defined as "a pattern of thought characterized by ... conformity to group values and ethics."

Basically, if we all look, talk and act the same, how can anyone think differently? It is in thinking

*"Our great country
was developed by
the result of
contributions of
every culture, race,
and ethnic group
that make up our
society."*

-Capt. Joe Colunga
47th Flying Training
Wing Military Equal
Opportunity chief

See 'Events,' page 3



By Master Sgt. James Moon
47th Flying Training Wing
Logistics plans and programs superintendent

Decision to stay in made easier by setting goals

I spent my first 14 years as an Air Force member in the Supply career field. I recently retrained, and for the past seven months, I have been in the Logistics Plans career field. I hail from Meigs County, Tenn.

I decided to make the Air Force a career when I enlisted for the second time on the anniversary of my eighth year in the service. Two reasons led to this decision. Security was the first reason. It comforts me knowing I can count on a

paycheck every two weeks. The second reason is the people. I still believe the Air Force has some of the brightest and most well-rounded men and women from the nation as a whole.

My three career goals have been to work hard at whatever job or task I have been assigned, attain the rank of master sergeant and receive a master's degree before I retire. My advice to first- and second-term airmen flows along the same lines. People should give 100 percent and

work hard at whatever task they have been assigned. If they do this, everything normally works out for the best in the end. They should study, study, study for promotion. From staff sergeant to master sergeant, promotions are mainly in a person's own hands. Finally, they should put forth the effort to obtain either a formal degree or receive some type of certification before exiting the Air Force. This will ease some of the tension when transitioning to civilian life.

Col. Jack Egginton
Commander
1st Lt. Dawnita Parkinson
Public affairs chief
Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit
Editor

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News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, 298-5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.**

Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday.

Submissions can be e-mailed to:
bradley.pettit@laughlin.af.mil or
reginal.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil

"Excellence – not our goal, but our standard."

– 47 FTW motto

'Events,' from page 2

differently or "outside the box" that ideas emerge and can change the world.

The Department of Defense knows the devastating effect of groupthink, and one way it fights it is by promoting ethnic observances.

During the year special observance committees plan various events celebrating a particular culture. These events provide all Americans a glimpse of other cultures, values and religious beliefs that are different from our own.

You don't have to be of a specific heritage or culture to help any of the committees. As a matter of fact, you would gain more by stepping out of your own experiences to help others, and they, in turn, would learn from you.

New information and experiences shed light and diminish prejudices and stereotypes. Celebrating our differences helps our country become stronger than ever.

As we observe other countries going through social unrest due to ethnic and religious differences, we should be proud that America has found a way to overcome the same pitfalls. History has shown that our strength is due to our diversity.

So the next time you see an e-mail for a particular heritage committee event or meeting, remember it takes many different peoples and cultures to make America great, and a little bit of effort on your part goes a long way.

Thank you military spouses



A View from the Top



By Gen. Hal Hornburg

Air Education and Training Command commander

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE – This year, Air Education and Training Command will honor our military spouses at special events around the command beginning today, the official Military Spouse Appreciation Day, and extending through to the end of the month.

AETC bases will hold a variety of events and activities designed to highlight and recognize the many contributions our spouses make to the military community and the enormous impact they have on the quality of our lives. Your base newspaper and the family support center will feature dates, times and places of those events, and I wholeheartedly support them and encourage everyone to participate in as many of these activities as possible.

Our military spouses, those wives and husbands of military members, are extraordinary

people. They keep our homes and our lives moving smoothly when, by necessity, the military member is away and unable to help with all the hard work it takes to run a household and maintain family continuity – from the regular routine of paying the bills every month to the inevitable broken appliances, to emergency room crises with our children. What's more, this special day is increasingly encompassing families in which husbands and wives, moms and dads are both in uniform, a situation that has its own special challenges.

I want to say a word of thanks to my wife, Cynthia, and to all the spouses in the command who stand side by side with us.

Some cynics might say Military Spouse Appreciation Day events are just another opportunity for the base exchange to have a sale. The BX and other base services may offer special deals, but the welcome and meaningful appreciation starts at home.

I encourage all AETC team members to go home tonight and give their spouses a kiss, hug and say

thank you! Remind them how much we depend on their love and support to be able to serve this wonderful country of ours. Don't put it off. Say it now. Say it daily.

"Our military spouses, those wives and husbands of military members, are extraordinary people."

-Gen. Hal Hornburg
Air Education and Training Command commander

Actionline

Call 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal

reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.



Col. Jack Egginton
47 FTW commander

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Inspector General	298-5638
Legal	298-5172
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810
Equal Opportunity	298-5400
FWA hotline	298-4170

Question: I'm concerned about the flowers passed out for the housing areas. In the past, our neighbor could pick up flowers as long as we notified the Pride Store employees when we weren't available. However, we have been told this won't be permitted this year. This is an inconvenience if our husbands are on temporary duty assignments or can't be there to get them because of commitments that can't be rearranged. The long lines, limited parking area and high traffic make taking our children with us

impractical as well. I understand the plants are first-come, first-served, but I think some arrangements should be possible for people who can't be there.

Answer: I'm sorry if the revised flower/plant issuance was a problem for you. We try to make the issuance of the plants as easy as possible for everyone. We changed the policy this time as a result of the numerous calls we received following the last flower issuing. Occupants were concerned about some people picking up more

than their "fair share" of plants. Additionally, the Pride Store had several returned flowers and plants that weren't quite what the occupant wanted, leaving the store with many unwanted plants. Therefore, we changed the policy. One suggestion is that you may try to make an arrangement with a friend or neighbor to watch your children while you pick up the plants and then you can watch their children while they go. We always have plenty of plants/flowers for all those who want them.

'Promotion,' from page 1

it was after his promotion selection date and was not included in the original promotion package. Because of this, his DVR was updated and re-evaluated by a supplemental promotion board.

"I felt great when Lt. Col. Dunham [47th Operations Support Squadron commander] came and presented me with the stripe, but I don't think it has really hit me yet," said Fenimore. "Chief Enyeart and Capt. Merritt [Airfield Operations Flight commander] played a huge role and never let me quit or give up hope in the process."

Though the road through the supplemental promotion process was bumpy, Fenimore says the promotion, though late, was well worth it.

"The system gives everyone a fair shot if something is left out of your records beyond your control," said Fenimore. "It was a long process, but having my stripe pinned on by my commander and the command chief – well it doesn't get any better than that."

Fenimore says he set only two goals when he joined the Air Force 17 years ago.

"I've always wanted to be a part of the Top Three," he said. "Now that I've accomplished that, I can continue working on my second most important goal – keeping my Air Force career fun!"



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Donovan K. Potter

Silver Star

Silver Star recipient Wilbur C. West (center) shares a laugh with his daughter, June Spakes, and Brig. Gen. Paul J. Fletcher, 314th Airlift Wing commander, prior to receiving his Silver Star nearly six decades after he earned it at Little Rock AFB, Ark., April 24. The 83-year-old received the medal for gallantry in action on June 12, 1942, when he was the co-pilot of a B-24 Liberator as part of the first heavy-bomber attacks on enemy targets in Europe.

Military to be recognized

Armed Forces Day 2001 will be celebrated from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 19 at the Plaza Del Sol Mall in Del Rio. There will be display booths from various Laughlin organizations, mock cockpits, an enlistment ceremony, a military fashion show, military working dog demonstrations, Junior ROTC drill team demonstrations and more. 47th Security Forces Squadron vehicles and a Laughlin fire truck will be on display outside. Recruiters will be available to answer questions.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Benny St. John at 298-5441.

Base commissary closes

The Laughlin commissary will be closed May 21 and 22 for self reorganization. Regular hours will resume May 23.

Med group closes May 25

The 47th Medical Group will reduce operations and staffing from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 25.

The Family Practice Clinic will operate acute appointments for active duty from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Aerospace Medicine will operate sick call hours from 1 to 2 p.m. Both clinics will have minimal staffing for the remainder of the day but will be able to schedule patients with acute same-day medical problems.

Newslines

Family Practice Clinic appointments can be made by calling 298-6362. For Flight Medicine, call 298-6341. For emergencies, call 911.

Burger King accepts credit

The base Burger King now accepts credit/debit cards, Military Star cards and Smart Pay.

For more information, call 298-3001.

Cessation classes offered

Tobacco-cessation courses are scheduled for Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. in the Health and Wellness Center conference room. Classes will be held every Tuesday for four more weeks.

For more information, call Tech Sgt. Ray Fernandez at 298-6463 or 298-6464.

Pediatric clinic restructures

The 47th Medical Group Pediatric Clinic will restructure this summer. Current manning situations will lead to only one pediatrician at Laughlin.

Because high demands for appointments are anticipated, care will be changed to Val Verde Regional Medical Center, where all inpatient pediatric care for Laughlin children is currently provided.

Civilian pediatricians will take over the practice. This will expand the military pediatricians availability to provide consistent weekday clinic hours from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, call the Group Practice Management office at 298-6303 or 298-6324 or call Dr. (Capt.) Mark Vanderwel or Dr. (Maj.) Janet Goodwin at 298-6475.

Smog fees paid on cars

People may be eligible for a refund under the Smog Impact Fee if they registered a car in California that had previously been registered elsewhere.

For more information, call the legal office at 298-5172.

Storage lot fees charged

The 47th Services Division will assume responsibility for the on-base RV storage lot June 1. Prior to this date, Security Forces and Services will work together to ensure all records for stored equipment is up to date.

Because this will become a Services activity, fees will be charged for storage. The fee for Laughlin residents will be \$5 monthly or \$50 annually. For authorized off-base users, the charge will be \$10 monthly or \$90 annually.

For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 298-5830.

‘Graduation,’ from page 1

ceremony are:

Community College of the Air Force

47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron
Staff Sgt. Joshua J. Chumley,
Bioenvironmental engineering
Tech Sgt. Jesse L. Gillans Jr.,
Dental assistant
Tech Sgt. Raymond V. Fernandez,
Allied Health Sciences
Staff Sgt. Damaris E. Schafer,
Allied Health Sciences
47th Medical Support Squadron
Staff Sgt. Stacey Grabski,
Health Care Management
47th Mission Support Squadron
Master Sgt. Sandra L. Harper,

Personnel Administration
Tech. Sgt. April A. Melancon,
Social Services
47th Contracting Squadron
Staff Sgt. Monica Harris,
Logistics
Civilian
Daniel Rincones,
Information Systems Mgmt
David R. Mercier,
Criminal Justice
EAST
Shirley Simon,
Personnel Administration

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Permananant change of station
Capt. John Anderson,

Master of Aeronautical Science
Capt. Brian Scott Haines,

Master of Aeronautical Science
Capt. Jon Eric Larsen,
Master of Aeronautical Science
Capt. Jeffrey Warren McMillen,
Master of Aeronautical Science
Maj. Alan Shafer,
Master of Aeronautical Science
85th Flying Training Squadron
Capt. Justin Dee Cooper,

Master of Aeronautical Science
Civilians
Nicole Hartman Haines,
Master of Aeronautical Science
47th Mission Support Squadron
Capt. Anthony Wayne Blasius Holmes,
Master of Aeronautical Science
47th Operations Support Squadron
Capt. William Charles McCallum,
Master of Aeronautical Science

Park University

Civilians
Tabatha Bensel,
Bachelor’s degree, Management
Abdullah Hajar,
Bacheolor’s degree, Social Psychology
Cristina Michelle Rodriguez,
Social Psychology
Tracy Wallace,
Bacehlor’s degree, Management
47th Mission Support Squadron
Oscar Efrain Bocanegra Osuna,

Bachelor’s degree, Management
47th Operations Support Squadron
Tech Sgt. Scott M. Schmidt.
Bachelor’s degree, Management
47th Medical Support Squadron
SSgt. Stacey Grabski,
Associate’s degree, Management/
Social Psychology
47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron
SSgt. Damaris E. Schafer,
Associate’s degree, Social Psychology

Base appreciates military spouses

By Sabrina Pena
Family Support Center
Family Life educator

Today is Military Spouse Appreciation Day. To celebrate this day, several base organizations will host events and services throughout May in honor of “The Many Faces of the Military Spouse,” this year’s theme.

The following events are currently being offered to military spouses:

- A Decorating Your Home workshop will be held Wednesday from 10-11 a.m. at the Family Support Center.
- A Relaxation and Self Massage workshop will be held Thursday from 4-5 p.m. at the Family Support Center.
- A blood drive will be held in honor of military spouses May 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Fiesta Center ballroom. Call 298-5620 to sign up. All

donors will receive a San Antonio Spurs T-shirt. The blood drive is open to military, DoD civilians, contractors, and their families.

■ A “Many Faces of the Military Spouse” afternoon tea and fashion show will be held in honor of military spouses May 31 from 2-3 p.m. in the Fiesta Center ballroom. Everyone is invited to attend. This event will highlight the diverse backgrounds of many military spouses with models wearing fashions for many occasions.

Spouses will model clothes from their native countries. Children are also welcome to participate. Spaces must be reserved.

For more information on these activities, call the Family Support Center at 298-5620.

For information on Services events and programs, call 298-5826.



Please recycle this newspaper.



Jury service encouraged

By Capt. Chad Diederich

Laughlin Legal Office deputy staff judge advocate

Am I required to serve on a civilian jury as an active-duty Air Force member? Is there any kind of waiver I can get for being on active duty? If I serve, will my leave, pay or entitlements be charged? Do I need to notify anybody if I receive a summons?

These are some of the questions you may ask if you receive a summons to serve on a local jury.

To start, you must know that the Air Force encourages its members to serve on jury duty when they are requested. This does not mean there are not times when the interests of the Air Force outweigh jury service. For this reason, the first thing you should do if you receive a summons is notify your commander. This is the first step in the process to determine whether you are exempt from jury service.

Your immediate commander then determines whether you are in an exempt group. General officers, commanders, operating forces whose primary mission is to participate in and support combat, people in training, and those stationed outside the United States are exempt. If you fall into one

of these groups, the immediate commander can notify the issuing state or local official with a written notice.

A person is also exempt if jury duty would unreasonably interfere with military duties or adversely affect the readiness of a unit, command or activity. The immediate commander determines whether jury service will affect military duties or readiness. If he determines that it does, he may then request the special court-martial convening authority to make a final determination.

If you do serve on a jury, it will have no effect on your leave balance, pay or entitlements for the period of service. However, you may not keep any fees for jury service. Any fees paid to you must be made payable to the U.S. Treasury and turned in at Accounting and Finance. However, you may receive reimbursement from the state or local jury authority for expenses incurred in the

performance of jury duty, such as transportation costs or parking fees.

If you have questions on jury service, contact the base legal office between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. A base judge advocate will be available to help you.

“...the Air Force encourages its members to serve on jury duty when they are requested.”

*-Capt. Chad Diederich
Laughlin Legal Office
deputy staff judge
advocate*

Kadena AFB visits children's home

By Master Sgt. Michael Farris

353rd Special Operations Group Public Affairs

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan – In 15 minutes, Mizuki Miyazato devoured more chocolate than seemingly possible for a person of her stature. While other children at the Misato Children's Home sang songs and opened gifts, Mizuki concentrated on consuming a heap of Hershey's. Her strategy was deliberate and forthright and went largely unopposed. After all, today was a celebration for her – her third birthday.

Complete with balloons and cake and gifts galore, the party was sponsored by the 1st Special Operations Squadron here. Along with five other children whose birthdays fell in April, Mizuki sat at the head table and was honored before 45 members of the home and 24 airmen and their families.

For the past five years, on the last Saturday of each month, members of the 1st SOS observe birthdays at the children's home. Every child is assigned a sponsor from the squadron who ensures the child has gifts and goodies on his or her special day.

“We always enjoy their hospitality when we visit,” said Lt. Col. Greg Buterbaugh, squadron commander. “It's developed into a long-term

See ‘Children,’ page 9



Photo by Pat Watson

Mice and Men

(Left) Harry Boykin and Ron Aquilino, LCSAM's computer mousecatchers, show off their latest mouse roundup. Boykin supervises data management for LCSAM; his “First Look” program, which reconditions small computers and hardware for the unit, saves LCSAM at least \$15,600 yearly.

Where are they now?

Name: Col. William J. DelGrego
Class/date of graduation from Laughlin: Class 82-06, July 1982
Aircraft you now fly and base you are stationed at:
F-15E, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
Mission of your current aircraft? Strike
What do you like most about your current aircraft? It is the most capable fighter in the U.S. inventory.
What do you dislike most about your current aircraft?
Not having the parts to fix it
What was the most important thing you learned at Laughlin besides learning to fly? Working hard and playing hard pays off.
What is your most memorable experience from Laughlin? Assignment drop night when I got my fighter (F-4).
What advice would you give SUPT students at Laughlin? Work hard and play hard. Do your best in the job you are in right now. Don't think of a career; think performance.



U.S. Air Force photo

Chapel Schedule

Catholic

Saturday

-Mass, 5 p.m.

Sunday

-Mass, 9:30 a.m.

-Confession by appointment

-Little Rock Scripture Study, 11 a.m. in Chapel Fellowship Hall

-CCD, 11 a.m., Religious Education Building

Thursday

-Choir, 6 p.m.

Muslim

Dr. Mostafa Salama, call 768-9200

Jewish

Max Stool, call 775-4519

Protestant

Sunday

-General worship, 11 a.m.

-Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. at the Religious Education Building

Monday

Student Wives' Fellowship, 7-9 p.m. Call 298-7365.

Wednesday

- Women's Bible Study, 12:30-2:15 p.m. at Chapel

-Choir, 7 p.m. at Chapel

For more information on Chapel events and services, call 298-5111.



(Courtesy photo)

Team player

Members of the U.S. Air Force Academy Falcon football team present a team jersey to President Bush May 4 after the president presented the football team with the Commander in Chief's Trophy in a ceremony on the White House South Lawn. The trophy is awarded yearly to the winner of a round-robin tournament among the service academies. The Air Force Academy has won the trophy 10 of the last 12 years.

The *XLer*

Hometown: Dagupan City, Philippines

Family: Husband, Tim; son, Ryan, 11; daughter, Melanie, 9.

Time at Laughlin: 2 1/2 years

Time in service: 16 years

Greatest accomplishment: Marrying my crazy husband and raising my two loving kids

Name one way to improve life at Laughlin: Make it a remote tour

Hobbies: Exercising, gardening and volunteering

Bad habit: Trying to get too much done in too little time

Favorite beverage: Water

Favorite food: Any type of Filipino food

If you could spend one hour with any person, whom would it be and why?

My mom, to tell her one more time how much I love and miss her and appreciate her sacrifices to raise me and my siblings.



Yolanda Griffin

Thrift Store volunteer

Question of the week

How can you present a good Air Force image to the community?



"By presenting a positive image in dress and appearance and always being professional."

Tech. Sgt. Jesse L. Gillans Jr.
47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron, NCOIC dental support



"Being involved in community activities while informing community members of our duties and responsibilities, and keeping a mature and professional attitude."

Airman 1st Class Blanca G. Rivera
47th Operations Support Squadron air traffic control apprentice



"Let the community know what we do here at Laughlin and answer any questions to those who have them, and do it with a smile."

2nd Lt. Ryan Grant
86th Flying Training Squadron student pilot

'Children,' from page 6

relationship. We're grateful to be able to brighten their lives, if only a bit. They certainly brighten ours."

Master Sgt. Richard Frazier, the squadron first sergeant, currently organizes the parties and keeps track of birthdays.

"I like to bring my kids so they can all play together," he said. "Kids have an incredible ability to transcend barriers and communicate without language. It's great to watch them interact."

Having taught at the children's home for nearly a year, Tomoyo Oshiro has witnessed the anticipation of the monthly merriment. She said the children eagerly look forward to the parties with their American friends.

"The kids appreciate the chance to meet these Americans," said Oshiro. They're very proud of their school and jump at the chance to show visitors their latest projects and recent successes."

Oshiro said children's exposure outside the school is limited and they are thrilled with cultural and language exchanges.

A few dozen futile attempts at "tanjoobi omedeto" (happy birthday) left American tongues in knots and Japanese kids giggling uncontrollably. Though the language was imperfect, the message was crystal clear: The relationship between the Misato Children's Home and the 1st SOS is time-tested and mutually beneficial.

(Courtesy of Pacific Air Forces News Service)



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www.savingsbonds.gov



Recycle...

Air Force cyclist rides across America

By Staff Sgt. Jason Tudor

Air Force Print News

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — With more than 1,100 miles behind him, a master sergeant is cycling across the United States, carrying a message to airmen and potential recruits along the way.

Master Sgt. Wayne Bartlett started his trek at March Air Reserve Base, Calif., May 1 with 27 others who will bicycle almost 3,400 miles to Andrews Air Force Base, Md., by June 1. Bartlett, a 20-year Air Force veteran and cycling enthusiast from Andrews, said he is making the journey to focus attention on Air Force recruiting and retention. Bartlett is also the lead noncommissioned officer for the Air Mobility Command's Year of Retention and Recruiting initiative at Andrews.

Bartlett has already spoken with a slew of recruiters, delayed-entry recruits and others about the merits of an Air Force career. He emphasized how ordinary people can do extraordinary things, and how the service allows the latitude for its people to soar. So far it seems his message and contagious energy are getting through.

"We hope that we're going to get the attention of people who might not realize that the Air Force is a place where they can be challenged, where they can explore their own limits and where they can do unusual things," Bartlett said.

Bartlett has been cycling for more than 10 years. His training included riding more 300 miles every seven days and more than 390 miles in the three days leading up to his flight to Los Angeles to start the trek. Bartlett is using permissive temporary duty time to make the bike ride, which was funded by AMC agencies using Year of Recruiting and Retention funds.

Each daily leg of the journey averages about 115 miles, through the gamut of weather conditions, over mountains and dicey terrain. Bartlett had never ridden any distance farther than 120 miles before the cross-country ride. He said the support he receives from his riding mates, a



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jason Tudor

Master Sgt. Wayne Bartlett is cycling across the United States, carrying a positive message to airmen and potential recruits along the way about merits of an Air Force career. Bartlett started his journey May 1 at March Air Reserve Base, Calif., and will complete it at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., by June 1.

group called America by Bicycles, is giving him the strength to make the journey.

"We try not to concern ourselves with the entire journey. You work on today—only today," he said. "It's really amazing what you can accomplish when you narrow your focus to today."

His effort has not gone unnoticed. Retired Lt. Col. Mike Munk, who is supervising the ride, said Bartlett's courage to attempt such a long journey is admirable.

"It's an awesome accomplishment," he said. "Doing it over a 30-day period is even more impressive. It ain't just riding a bike."

When the journey ends, Bartlett wants to draw attention to his core reason for making the journey — drawing people in and retaining current Air Force people.

"Don't worry about future appointments, obligations, schools and everything else," he said. "Just worry about the here and now. Do the best job you can do in basic training. Do the best job that you can do in tech school and on your job. Move on to the next problem, the next challenge."

Sports Wrap

Volleyball

Intramural volleyball was served up Monday at the XL Fitness Center. The 84/85 FTS, 86 FTS and Med Grp won matches.

84/85 FTS 2, 87 FTS 0

The 84/85 FTS team defeated 87 FTS in straight sets, 25-19 and 25-23. Both sets were close throughout; however, the 84/85 managed to go on decisive spurts in each set.

"It seems we're really coming together," said 1st Lt. Jason Ginn, 84/85 FTS. "We really didn't play well against the 86th, but we're over that," referring to his team's only loss this season.

86 FTS wins by forfeit

The second match was no match as the first-place 86 FTS team won with an SFS forfeit. The win keeps the 86th perfect on the season at 6 wins and 0 losses.

Med Grp 2, OSS 1

Monday's action ended with Med Grp earning their second victory of the season. They overcame early unforced errors to take the final two sets from OSS, 24-23 and 15-11.

The victories have 86, 84/85 and the Med Grp 1, 2 and 5 respectively in the most recent volleyball standings.

Softball

Intramural softball got into swing May 1 with Med Grp, LCSAM and Support walking away victorious.

Med Grp 21, SFS 2

Med Grp, the defending intramural softball champions, opened the 2001 season with a decisive 21-2 win over the SFS.

Both teams scored 1 run in the first inning. Inning 2 began with SFS getting several runners on base; however, all were left stranded as the Med Grp tightened its defense. Med Grp then loosened its bats, hitting around the order three times in the bottom of the second to score 20 runs and put the game out of reach.

Dave Morrison shined for the Med Grp, going deep for his first homerun of the season and driving in 7 runs.

LCSAM 10, East 9

LCSAM came from behind to pull off a thrilling 10-9 victory over a stubborn East team.

East went on top early and maintained the lead throughout the middle innings. LCSAM kept within striking distance and managed some late inning runs to overtake East and snare the victory.

Support 9, CES 8

The nail-bitter of the night was the Support team's 9-8 victory over CES.

Both Support and CES scored well and had outstanding defensive efforts as no more than 3 runs separated the two teams at any given time. Support came to bat with time expired, trailing by 3 runs. They manufactured 4 runs on key hits and a couple of defensive errors to win the game.

Adam Lewis singled up the middle to score the winning run.